We the undersigned, can no longer watch silently as short-sighted decisions and greed continue to undermine all that makes Malta special.

The health and quality of life of the residents of Malta have deteriorated over different governments as rampant construction has ruined our towns and villages while damaging policies have continued unabated to pave the way for more building in our threatened countryside, impacting agriculture and biodiversity.

Our islands are paralysed by ever-increasing traffic which is costing the nation €274 million a year in terms of lost productivity and ill health due to toxic emissions - contributing to lung conditions, heart problems, cancer and strokes – as well as taking us ever further from our 2020 climate change targets.

In allowing the destruction of our heritage buildings and landscapes we are losing our beauty, our quality of life and social fabric. When we destroy that which makes us what we are, which distinguishes us from others, we lose our national identity and damage the unique product that our tourism sector - the pillar of our economy - depends upon.

The continued lack of commitment to enforce laws has filled our towns, countryside and beaches with abusive buildings, air and noise pollution, and has now resulted in the widespread pollution of our sea, once again affecting tourism, human health and depleting marine ecosystems.

In many towns nothing is being done to improve the lives of residents adversely impacted by industrial development and to provide them with green open spaces which are vital for their physical, mental and social well-being.

The recent permits approved to build high-rise towers will accelerate the degradation of our communities, as we further intensify urban densities in congested centres where our transport and infrastructure is already not coping with the present situation, let alone with the addition of massive speculative projects. These immediate changes to our urban landscape are being pushed through without the essential studied and holistic vision that provides comprehensive planning solutions taking into account the developments' cumulative social impact and the limitations of our island.

With over 41,000 completely vacant dwellings, Malta needs to curb over-development through the imaginative and innovative transfer of construction activity to restoration work and to cease once and for all the demolition of heritage buildings.

We call for policies that give importance to urban carrying capacity rather than construction capacity which results in immediate financial gain for the few, at the expense of the many.

We call for environmental and social justice - We are duty bound to do so for the generations to come.

I, the undersigned, authorise the publication of my name strictly in relation to the declaration below, which is to be published in all forms of media and media fora.

Full NAME in CAPS	ADDRESS	ID	SIGNATURE	DATE